

Election: Why God Chooses

December 24, 2017

OT

Isa 43:6-7

Isa 43:6 I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, 7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

NT

Eph 1:3-6

Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Context? (introduction)

So far in Ephesians:

- Last Sunday: Ephesians – election, God’s right to choose.
- One Need (ours): Election → confusion and offense.
- *One Solution (Jesus):* election = ministry of the gospel (170+ ref.)
- *Joy & Glory!:* 3-part series, election
 - God’s right to choose
 - How God chooses
 - **Why God chooses**

Focus? (attention)

Gospel focus: But why did he choose me?!?!)

Text? (explanation)

The Big Topic: Why does God choose to save us!

Why does he choose us?

For his glory

Eph 1:5-6 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Rom 9:22-23 22 What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience those who are (Rom 9:22 ESV) vessels of wrath prepared for destruction. 23 He does this to make the riches of his glory shine even brighter on those to whom he shows mercy, who were prepared in advance for glory.

Isa 43:6-7 6 I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, 7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

1Co 1:27-28 28 Instead, God chose those the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose those who are powerless to shame those who are powerful. 28 God chose those despised by the world, those counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important.

1Pe 2:9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Why does he choose us?

For our joy

Rom 8:33 Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one-- for God himself has justified us (given us right standing with himself).

1Pe 2:10 [v. 9, But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people.]
Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy.

Ps 106:5 Let me look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your people, that I may glory with those who are your inheritance.

Jh 15:16 You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.

How should we respond?

With glory and joy

Col 3:12-17 12 Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. 16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. 17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

2Pe 2:10a So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen.

2Pe 1:5-11 5 In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, 6 and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, 7 and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone. 8 The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of

our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But those who fail to develop in this way are shortsighted or blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their old sins. 10 So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. 11 Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

But why did he choose me?!?!

Ps 105:43-45 43 So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. 44 And he gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the fruit of the peoples' toil, 45 that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the LORD!

Rev 17:14 Together [the last rebel kings] they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him.